During this period female literacy increased by 14.8 percentage points *i.e.* from 39.3% to 54.16% as against 11.7 percentage points i.e. 64.1% to 75.8% increase in male literacy. Out of 858 million people in 7+ age group, 562 million are now literate and out of which 225 million are women. The gap in male-female literacy rates has decreased from24.8 percentage points in 1991 to 21.7 percentage points in 2001.

(c) SSA aims to bridge all gender and social gaps at primary stage by 2007 and that elementary education level by 2010.

Mahila Samakhya is a programme for the educational empowerment of women in rural areas particularly women from socially and economically marginalized groups.

Major thrust of the NLM programmes is on promotion of literacy among women, SCs, STs and other disadvantaged section.

(d) Under the literacy programmes, there is no such specific scheme at present.

Smart Schools

†2056. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL

SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA :

Will the MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish Smart Schools all over the country, in order to provide quality education, by making use of computers and other technological devices;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the number of smart schools to be set up in each State, State-wise; and

(c) the norms prescribed to establish a Smart School in a particular place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA] : (a) to (c) Development of SMART Schools in field of Information Technology is one of the components of the proposed scheme of Computer Literacy And Studies in Schools (CLASS).

KVS and NVS would convert one school per State/UT into a SMART school. A grant of not more than Rs. 25 lakhs would be given per SMART school.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.